

# Transcript of Reagan's Message to the Soviet People for 'Year of Peace'

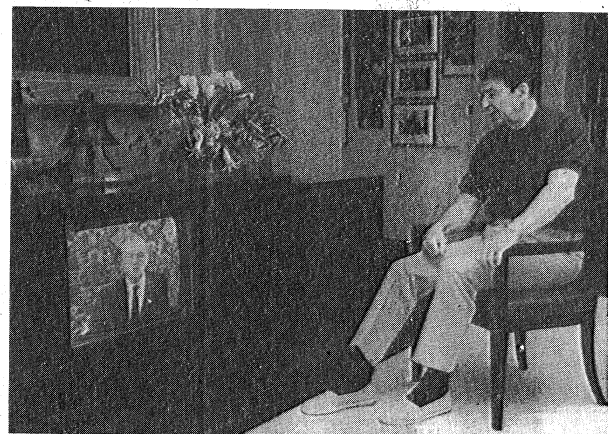
Special to The New York Times  
PALM SPRINGS, Calif., Jan. 1  
Following is a transcript, issued by the White House, of President Reagan's New Year's message today to the Soviet people:

Good evening. This is Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America.  
I'm pleased to speak to you on the occasion of the New Year. This is a time for reflection and for hope. As we look back on the year just concluded, and on the year that is to come, I want to share with you my hopes for the new year — hopes for peace, prosperity and good will that the American and Soviet people share.

Just over a month ago, General Secretary Gorbachev and I met for the first time in Geneva. Our purpose was to begin a fresh chapter in the relations between our two countries, and to try to reduce the suspicions and mistrust between us.  
I think we made a good beginning. Mr. Gorbachev and I spent many hours together, speaking frankly and seriously about most important issues of our time — reducing the massive nuclear arsenals on both sides, resolving regional conflicts, insuring respect for human rights as guaranteed under international agreements, and other questions of mutual interest.

## Our Deep Desire for Peace

As the elected representative of the American people, I told Mr. Gorbachev of our deep desire for peace, and that the American people do not wish the Soviet people any harm. While there were many areas on



President Reagan watching Mikhail S. Gorbachev on television yesterday at Rancho Mirage, Calif.

which we did not agree, which was to be expected, we left Geneva with a better understanding of one another and of the goals we each have. We are determined to build on that un-

derstanding in the coming months.  
One of the most important things on which we agreed was the need to reduce the massive nuclear arsenals

on both sides. As I have said many times, a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. Therefore, we agreed to accelerate negotiations where there is common

ground to reduce and eventually eliminate the means of nuclear destruction.

Our negotiators will soon be returning to the Geneva talks on nuclear and space arms, where, Mr. Gorbachev and I agreed, we will seek agreements on the principle of 50 percent reductions in offensive nuclear arms, and an interim agreement on intermediate-range nuclear systems. And it's my hope that one day, we will be able to eliminate these weapons altogether and rely increasingly for our security on defense systems that threaten no one.

## Defense Research on Both Sides

Both the United States and the Soviet Union are doing research on the possibilities of applying new technologies to the cause of defense. If these technologies become a reality, it is my dream that — well, to one day free us all from the threat of nuclear destruction.

One of the best ways to build mutual understanding is to allow the American and the Soviet peoples to get to know one another better.

In Geneva, we signed a new agreement to exchange our most accomplished artists and academics. We also agreed to expand the contacts between our peoples so that students, teachers and young people can get to know each other directly. If people in both countries can visit, study and work together, then we will strengthen the bonds of understanding and build a true foundation for lasting peace.

I also discussed the American people's strong interest in humanitarian

issues. Our democratic system is founded on the belief in the sanctity of human life and the rights of the individual — rights such as freedom of speech, of assembly, of movement and of worship. It is a sacred truth to us that every individual is a unique creation of God, with his or her own special talents, abilities, hopes and dreams.

Respect for all people is essential to peace, and as we agreed in Geneva, progress in resolving humanitarian issues in a spirit of cooperation would go a long way to making 1986 a better year for all of us.

## To Help Stop Wars

A safe and lasting peace also requires finding peaceful settlements to armed conflicts which cause so much human suffering in many parts of the world. I have proposed several concrete steps to help resolve such conflicts. It is my hope that in 1986 we will make progress toward this end. I see a busy year ahead in building on the foundations laid in Geneva. There is much work to be done.

Mr. Gorbachev will visit the United States later this year, and I look forward to showing him our country. In 1987, I plan to visit your country and hope to meet many of you.

On behalf of the American people, I wish you all a happy and healthy new year. Let's work together to make it a year of peace. There is no better goal for 1986 or for any year. Let us look forward to a future of "chistoye nebo" for all mankind. Thank you, spasio.

## Reagan and Gorbachev Hopeful In an Exchange of TV Broadcasts

Continued From Page A1

but Moscow has expressed a preference for a later time.

The two men touched on differences between the United States and the Soviet Union, with Mr. Reagan being more explicit in arguing his case for development of a space-based missile defense, a basic source of contention.

The President also raised the human rights issue by saying that the American system was based "on the belief in the sanctity of human life and the rights of the individual — rights such as freedom of speech, of assembly, of movement and of worship."

"Progress in resolving humanitarian issues in a spirit of cooperation would go a long way to making 1986 a better year for all of us," he said.  
Mr. Gorbachev said that the exchange of messages was "a hopeful sign of change, which, though small, is nonetheless a change for the better in our relations."

"The gap dividing us is still wide," the Soviet leader added. "To bridge it will not be easy, but we saw in Geneva that it can be done. Bridging that gap would be a great feat — a feat our people are ready to perform for the sake of world peace."

## Stress on Arms Reduction

Consistent with Soviet policy, his stress was on achieving progress in arms control talks by cutting nuclear arsenals together with banning the United States' space-based defense program.

"It is a reality of today's world," Mr. Gorbachev said, "that it is senseless to seek greater security for oneself through new types of weapons. At present, every step in the arms race increases the danger and the risk for both sides, and for all humanity. It is the forceful and compelling demand of life itself that we should follow the path of cutting back nuclear arsenals and keeping outer space peaceful."

Mr. Gorbachev did not mention the Soviet moratorium on nuclear underground testing, which Moscow has said would expire today unless the United

States accepted a Soviet invitation to join in. Washington has rejected the offer.

Mr. Reagan's remarks on arms control focused on the two leaders' agreement in Geneva to give priority to seeking 50 percent cuts in offensive nuclear weapons and an interim accord on medium-range nuclear forces, even though the two sides are far apart on how such objectives should be realized.

"It is my hope that one day we will be able to eliminate these weapons altogether, and rely increasingly for our security on defensive systems which threaten no one," Mr. Reagan said. Asserting that the two countries were carrying out research on space-based defense systems — something that Moscow denies doing — Mr. Reagan said, "If these technologies become a reality, it is my dream to one day free us all from the threat of nuclear destruction."

He said he hoped the new, broadened agreement on exchange programs would improve relations.

"If people in both countries can visit, study and work together, too, then we will strengthen the bonds of understanding and build a true foundation for lasting peace," Mr. Reagan said.

Mr. Gorbachev said he was "reminded of the title of a remarkable work of American literature, 'The Winter of Our Discontent,'" by John Steinbeck. The title, in turn, comes from a line in Shakespeare's "Richard III."

He said he wanted to substitute the word "hope" for "discontent," and added:

## Reagan Sees 'Busy Year Ahead'

Mr. Reagan said, "I see a busy year ahead in building on the foundations laid in Geneva." He said he looked forward to showing Mr. Gorbachev "our wonderful country."

He concluded by wishing the Soviet people "a happy and healthy New Year." Using some Russian words, Mr. Reagan said, "Let us look forward to a future of 'chistoye nebo' for all mankind."

The words, meaning "clear skies," were meant to convey the thought of "clear sailing ahead in the New Year," according to a White House aide.

Mr. Reagan's last words were "Thank you," which he then translated, "Spasio."

At Palm Springs, Calif., where he was spending New Year's at the estate of Walter Annenberg, Mr. Reagan watched Mr. Gorbachev's statement on television. The White House said Mr. Reagan commented: "I welcome his message as a continuation of our discussions in Geneva. Let us hope that these words will be the foundation for making 1986 the year of peace our peoples deserve."

## Israel Holds Five Arabs After West Bank Raid

Special to The New York Times

TEL AVIV, Jan. 1 — Israeli troops raided homes in the West Bank Tuesday night and detained five Palestinians under administrative orders signed by the military governor.

Spokesmen in the military command said the detainees were accused of "hostile terrorist activities." They would not give details of the purported offenses.

A source in the military command said nearly 100 Palestinians had been put under administrative detention as "security risks" since the Cabinet voted in August to revive the policies of administrative detention and expulsion, which had been suspended several years earlier. The revival of the measures was in response to public pressure for a crackdown after a wave of Arab violence.

The military Governor is empowered to order detentions of up to six months at a time, but the orders must be brought before a military judge for review and approval within 96 hours.

JERUSALEM, Jan. 1 (Reuters) — Israeli troops thwarted a rocket attack on northern Galilee Tuesday night, killing one guerrilla, an army spokesman said today.

The action took place near Shaqra, in Israel's self-proclaimed security zone in southern Lebanon, where Israeli troops surprised a guerrilla squad setting up two rocket launchers aimed across the nearby border, the spokesman said.

Later two Katyusha rockets fired from Lebanon landed in the northern Galilee region but caused no injuries or damage, the Israeli television said.

## Iran and Iraq Report Air Raid And Exchange Accusations

MANAMA, Bahrain, Jan. 1 (Reuters) — Iraq and Iran mounted bombing raids today and accused each other of attacking civilian targets in renewed aerial activity in their five-year-old war.

Iraq said two civilians were killed and four wounded when two Iranian planes attacked residential areas in the northern province of Sulaimaniya.

Iran said its planes caused heavy casualties and damage when they bombed communications sites in northeast Iraq.

It was not clear if the two sides were referring to the same raid.

The official Iranian news agency said the Iranian strike today was in retaliation for Iraqi raids Tuesday on rural areas in which 30 civilians were wounded.

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A9

## Gorbachev's New Year's Message to the U.S.

Following is the text of Mikhail S. Gorbachev's New Year's message to the American people, as provided in translation by Tass, the Soviet Government press agency:

Dear Americans:

I see a good augury in the way we are beginning the New Year, which has been declared the year of peace. We are starting it with an exchange of direct messages — President Reagan's to the Soviet people and mine to you.

This, I believe, is a hopeful sign of change which, though small, is nonetheless a change for the better in our relations. The few minutes that I will be speaking to you strike me as a meaningful symbol of our mutual willingness to go on moving toward each other, which is what your President and I began doing at Geneva. For a discussion along these lines we had the mandate of our peoples. They want the constructive Soviet-American dialogue to continue uninterrupted and to yield tangible results.

As I face you today, I want to say that the Soviet people are dedicated to peace — that supreme value equal to the gift of life. We cherish the idea

of peace, having suffered for it. Together with the pain of unhealing wounds and the agony of irretrievable losses, it has become part and parcel of our flesh and blood. In our country there is not a single family or a single home that has not kept alive the memory of their kith and kin who perished in the flames of war, the war in which the Soviet and American peoples were allies and fought side by side.

### A Record of Cooperation

I say this because our common quest for peace has its roots in the past, and that means we have a historic record of cooperation which can

today inspire our joint efforts for the sake of the future.

The many letters I have received from you and my conversations with your fellow countrymen — senators, congressmen, scientists, businessmen and statesmen — have convinced me that in the United States, too, people realize that our two nations should never be at war, that a collision between them would be the greatest of tragedies.

It is a reality of today's world that it is senseless to seek greater security for oneself through new types of weapons. At present, every step in the arms race increases the danger and the risk for both sides, and for all

humankind.

It is the forceful and compelling demand of life itself that we should follow the path of cutting back nuclear arsenals and keeping outer space peaceful. This is what we are negotiating about at Geneva, and we would very much like those talks to be successful this year.

### Two Sides Bear Responsibility

In our efforts for peace we should be guided by an awareness of the fact that today history has willed our two nations to bear an enormous responsibility to the peoples of our two countries and, indeed, the peoples of all countries, for preserving life on Earth. Our duty to all humankind is to offer it a safe prospect of peace, a prospect of entering the third millennium without fear. Let us commit

ourselves to doing away with the threat hanging over humanity. Let us not shift that task onto our children's shoulders.

We can hardly succeed in attaining that goal unless we begin saving up, bit by bit, the most precious capital there is — trust among nations and peoples. And it is absolutely essential to start mending the existing deficit of trust in Soviet-American relations.

I believe that one of the main results of my meeting with President Reagan is that, as leaders and as human beings, we were able to take the first steps toward overcoming mistrust and to activate the factor of confidence. The gap dividing us is still wide, to bridge it will not be easy, but we saw in Geneva that it can be done. Bridging that gap would be a great feat — a feat our people are

ready to perform for the sake of world peace.

I am reminded of the title of a remarkable work of American literature, the novel "The Winter of Our Discontent." In that phrase let me just substitute hope for discontent. And may not only this winter but every season of this year and of the years to come be full of hope for a better future, a hope that, together, we can turn into reality. I can assure you that we shall spare no effort in working for that.

For the Soviet people, the year 1986 marks the beginning of a new stage in carrying out our constructive plans. Those are peaceful plans, we have made them known to the whole world.

I wish you a Happy New Year. To every American family, I wish good health, peace and happiness.